

Former Mayor Chris Chilson called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Lime Springs to order in the Community Center on January 4, 2022, at 7:00 pm. Chris welcomed incoming Mayor Brian Johnson and incoming Council members: Jeff Burnikel, Richard Cottrell and Brady Vrieze.

Member(s) present: Jennifer Kalstabakken, Kristy McNamara, Jeff Burnikel, Richard Cottrell

Member(s) absent: Brady Vrieze

City Employees: Tyler Smith (Public Works), Jane Tibbals (City Clerk)

Visitor(s): Marcie Klomp (TPD), Jill Tibbals, Ed Hampe, Chris Chilson, Scott Osmundson, Nate Schwickerath, Jodie Hubka, Sharla Lieder

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE recited.

Open Forum: No Comments.

Former Mayor Chris Chilson handed the meeting over to Incoming Mayor Brian Johnson at 7:03 pm.

Agenda, Previous Month's Minutes, Approval of Bills, and Financial report: McNamara made a motion to approve agenda, previous month's minutes from December 7, 2021 meeting, bills and financial reports. Kalstabakken 2nd. McNamara, Burnikel, Cottrell and Kalstabakken voted yes with Vrieze not present to vote. The agenda, December minutes, bills and finance reports were approved.

Department Heads:

Fire Dept. Report: Former Fire Chief Nate Schwickerath introduced New Fire Chief Scott Osmundson. Nate said he previously reported that he was going to retire from the LS Fire Dept effective December 31, 2021 but has now decided to stay on to help Scott for a short time. Firefighter One training continues thru March on Mondays & Thursdays. Their new Gear Washing Extractor has been set up in Chester. They are sharing this equipment with Chester and Chester had the better space to set it up. The equipment washes the firefighters' equipment/gear to remove cancer causing carcinogens. Firefighter's dance & raffle is scheduled for January 15 at KCD's. LS Fire Dept mailed raffle tickets to all mailboxes in 52155 zip code. January 8 is the date that LS Firefighters will pick up Christmas trees pickup. The City credit card needs to be changed to Scott's name. Burnikel motioned for Fire Dept Officers to be accepted as presented. McNamara 2nd. All 4 present voted Aye. Motion approved for Fire Dept Officers as: Fire Chief Scott Osmundson; Asst Chief Tary Kolek; Training Officer Matt Levenson; Medical & Safety Officer Dan Gibbs and Secretary Levi Hart. McNamara motioned for Fire Dept Board to be accepted as presented. Kalstabakken 2nd. All 4 present voted Aye. Motion approved for Fire Dept Board as: President Mike Levenson, members Truman Thomas, Tary Kolek, Jason Hammon and Cody Bakken. Council asked Nate regarding the recent accident that caused power outages in December. Nate reported that both he and Chester Firefighter Jeff Wendell have been having difficulties with Alliant responses to their inquiries and questions. Nate contacted MI Energy and they have also tried to contact Alliant with limited success. There was a person trapped in the car for over 90 minutes because of live power lines before Fire Dept could safely extract them. There was also discussion regarding Alliant's time response on restoring power to all homes in City. MI Energy rep has volunteered to come to City Council meeting to discuss City's options. Mayor Brian asked for a motion to invite MI Energy to City Council meeting. Kalstabakken motioned for MI Energy to be invited to City Council meeting. McNamara 2nd. All 4 present voted Aye. Motion approved for MI Energy to be invited to City Council meeting.

Library Report: Council Kalstabakken read Library report in Eddie Miller's absence. Upcoming Library events include book discussion scheduled for January 11 and Bingo on the 15th. Jennifer said patron numbers not available since Library Board had not met.

Park & Rec Report: Sharla Lieder reported their Board had accepted Brian Johnson's resignation as he is now City Mayor. They were pleased to receive the Oneota Grant which is going to be used for additional lighting at the Parks as well as going towards a new microwave at the Pool. Continuing to identify equipment needs to apply for other grants. Also working on job descriptions, procedures and policies.

Public Works Director Report: Tyler Smith reported he had approved a building permit for Jeff Siegenthaler's garage, to be built this coming Spring. December 23, the crew came in and removed the asbestos around the furnace and ductwork in the previously owned Jenkins' building. The crew plans to come back in January, depending on weather conditions to continue their work. Tyler worked with Perry Novak Electric to install temporary power to those buildings and Alliant made the power live December 31. The City truck sander has been repaired and new tires installed on the City truck. Perry Novak Electric also fixed the flag lights at the Community Center, there is a photocell that need repairing. Tyler finished repairing a waterline valve at the West Well Tuesday the 4th. Problem started over the weekend with the pilot light going out on the furnace, this tripped an alarm, Tyler then re-lit the pilot light. Meanwhile as it had gotten cold in there, one of the pipes froze and on Monday when it had warmed up, this valve broke, causing water to leak which was reported to Tyler late Monday night. This opened up Council discussion on how people notify who to call when they find water running. Tyler said that he would rather people call him early on, rather than wait until a problem becomes a bigger problem. Jane will put notice in the water bills, to encourage people to call Tyler when they notice a problem or concern. Do not wait until daytime hours. If he is not available, he has numbers he can call. Tyler continued that he had asked Perry Novak to look at generator costs to add at the well buildings, instead of tying up the tractor. This would free up the tractor for other uses. Council also requested well buildings to have emergency phone numbers listed.

Spring Ahead Learning Center Lease: Jodie Hubka, SALC director reported that they had checked with 3 different insurance companies, and they are still not able to obtain the Council's requested additional liability insurance. The 3 companies that she mentioned are: V & V, CIA and Cray insurance. She went on to state, that even tho these companies have written similar policies, they were for churches not for preschools. Council requested Jodie to obtain their denials in writing and Council would present the denials to the City Attorney to see if the lease could be written to exclude the City from SALC's liabilities.

Animal Control – Brady Kime's dog: no update from City Attorney. The dog is still in city limits.

Budget FY2023: Council scheduled Work Session for January 19 at 6:30. This is an open meeting for anyone to attend.

City Laptops: Jane is waiting for IT person to respond for a time for setting up the 4 laptops.

Merrill Street Bridge update: City Engineers are scheduled for February meeting to give updates for bridge and other items.

Commission Appointments for 2022: copies available to Council. Question came up on who did the assignments and was answered by Mayor as he appointed and asked if there was any objections. He went on to add that these are just appointments to investigate, they would still bring anything to the Council for discussion and or decisions on. Commission Appointments are: **Mayor Pro Tem** Jeff Burnikel; **Finance Committee:** Jennifer Kalstabakken & Brady Vrieze; **Water-Sewer-Waste:** Kris McNamara & Tyler Smith; **Building Permit Approvals:** Tyler Smith; **Civil Defense:** Brady Vrieze & Jeff Burnikel; **Health:** LS Reginal; **City Employees Supervisory Committee:** Brady Vrieze & Jeff Burnikel; **City Employees Safety Committee:** Brady Vrieze, Richard Cottrell & Scott Osmundson; **Tree Committee:** Jennifer Kalstabakken & Richard Cottrell; **Library Board Liaison:** Kris McNamara; **Park & Recreation Board Liaison:** Richard Cottrell.

Inquiry Rights/Authorized Signatures (Banking): removing Chris Chilson and Amy Norton as authorized signers and adding Brian Johnson and Jeff Burnikel to authorized signatures. McNamara made a motion to approve Inquiry Rights/Authorized Signatures for banking purposes. Kalstabakken 2nd. All 4 present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Property Tax Split for FY2023: A lively discussion came up on the percentages and amounts from previous years on how the splitting of the City funds had been done. The percentages of the property tax going towards the Pool and the Fire Departments were particularly questioned. McNamara motioned for the property taxes to be split using the percentages from FY2021. Kalstabakken 2nd. All 4 present voted Aye. New Property taxes splits for FY2023 are: Community Center 5% \$6,868; Fire Dept 8% \$10,988; Library 17% \$23,350; Parks 5% \$6,868; Pool 15% \$20,603 and General Fund 50% \$68,678.

Entities Budget Due Date: Due to timelines of finalizing the FY2023 Budget of March 1, 2022, it will be asked that budget information come to Jane by February 1, 2022.

Other: Council Richard Cottrell came with questions and comments. Some of the questions pertained to previous subjects that he felt had been dropped such as crosswalk painting and water leaks. Mayor Brian answered that this had been discussed and decided. Tyler answered that paint is on backorder and he has received about half of it and the weather is preventing anything to be painted until Spring. Richard asked where the City is at with grants and City's response to sewer repairs. Mayor Brian said that some of these questions would be better answered by the city engineers next month. Richard asked what can be done about posting weight limits on city streets, this will be put on next month's agenda for discussion. Richard asked why the City storm shelter's generator ran the whole time when the power was out last time. Nate answered that generators will run the whole time when power is out unless turned off, they have to be ready when someone needs them. Richard asked the question of protocol of who can call the City Attorney regarding city business. Mayor answered that this is still the same with Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and City Clerk being authorized to place the calls due to billable hours. Council asked that when City Attorney has been called if all of the Council could receive a message from Jane or Mayor on when these calls are done. Richard asked if the 3-inch rule still applied for snow removal. Brian said that was more of a ruling when the Public Works Director lived out of town, so this may not be the ruling now. Richard also asked what happens if Tyler is not able to come into work, who is authorized to run the City equipment? Richard was assured there are others that can do the work that he does. Thank yous to Chris Chilson and outgoing Council members from others. Job well done.

McNamara motioned for Council to go into closed session to discuss past due accounts. Burnikel 2nd. All 4 present voted Aye to go into closed session at 8:50 pm.

McNamara motioned for Council to come out of closed session to Adjourn at 9:15pm. Kalstabakken 2nd. All 4 present voted Aye to Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 pm.



Brian Johnson, Mayor



Jane Tibbals, City Clerk